

San Antonio, TX and aunt of Matthew Hanlon of San Antonio, TX, Jena Kolt, Kairi Kolt and Lucian MacMillan of the Bronx, passed away on July 17, 2011 at Calvary Hospital, Bronx, NY.

A native of the Bronx, Maureen entered military service in the U.S. Army in 1974. After leaving the Army, Maureen moved back to NYC and became the first female high rise window washer in the City of New York! Maureen worked at the Bronx VA where she met her spouse Susan in 1992. Susan and Maureen became official domestic partners on April 19, 1994. They were legally married on October 4, 2008 in Wellfleet, MA.

Always a humanitarian and champion for the underdog, Maureen found her calling in helping others. She became a social worker after getting her B.A. in Social Work from Lehman College and then graduated from Yeshiva University with an M.A. in Social Work. She worked in the burn unit at Jacobi Hospital during her undergrad internship and at the NYC Gay and Lesbian Anti-violence Project during her graduate internship. She continued to work at AVP after receiving her M.A. for four more years. She then went to work for NYC HRA in July of 2001 as a social worker for victims of domestic violence. She transferred to the Department of Homeless Services in 2004 and became a supervisor/manager.

Maureen also volunteered with the American Red Cross as a mental health worker. She was on the Bronx Disaster Response Team for three years. She worked in Mississippi for two weeks after Hurricane Katrina.

Maureen was a great lover of animals and rescued and provided a safe, secure, loving home for six dogs and four cats with her spouse Susan over a period of 18 years.

In Judaism there is a phrase about a Woman of Valor and Maureen Silo was such a woman. Through her actions she had shown us all how to live with love and grace even through life's most challenging times. I join with her family and friends in their time of grief and am grateful for her dignity and courage. As said in the Bible: "Who can find a virtuous woman for her price is far above rubies?" Well, that woman was Maureen Silo.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS AS FRANKLIN COUNTY'S SEAT

**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2011*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the designation of the town of Greenfield, Massachusetts as the county seat of Franklin County. The town of Greenfield was incorporated in 1753 and named for the nearby Green River. Hampshire County was divided to create Franklin County in 1811, and Greenfield was designated as the seat of government for Franklin County. After 200 years of development and innovation, Greenfield and Franklin County continue to thrive on the exceptional enthusiasm of their citizenry.

Greenfield has long been associated with commercial development and economic diversification. The strategic location at the con-

fluence of the Deerfield and Connecticut Rivers provided advantages to manufacturers in the 18th century. Throughout the 19th century, major transportation routes linking Springfield, Massachusetts to New Hampshire and also Boston to New York began to pass through Greenfield. The town eventually grew to accommodate the influx of manufacturers which lasted until the conclusion of World War I in 1918.

The ingenuity and resolve of Greenfield citizens ensured that the Great Depression did not cripple its agricultural and industrial workers, as happened elsewhere in America. The U.S. engagement in World War II then worked to stoke new business opportunities in Greenfield, and these economic openings allowed the town and its residents to quickly rebuild from the Depression and spring forward and economically develop further. In 2003, Greenfield grew to the point of adopting a mayoral form of government—thus, officially becoming a city in Massachusetts—in order to continue and improve upon its tradition of providing superior recreational, educational and business opportunities for its residents.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the designation of the town of Greenfield, Massachusetts as the county seat of Franklin County, I congratulate its citizens and praise their dedication and perseverance throughout the town and city's history. I look forward with enthusiastic support as we work together for a prosperous future.

#### RECOGNIZING FRANK WORTHINGTON

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2011*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to properly recognize the life and military service of Private Frank Worthington of the United States Colored Troops. Private Worthington, a former slave, served during the Civil War and on August 13, 2011, his family will remember his life and military service at Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson, North Carolina with a Civil War headstone dedication ceremony.

Frank Worthington was born a slave. It was a sad and troubled time in our Nation's history. He was a slave on a plantation located in Pitt County, North Carolina. Upon escaping from the plantation, he joined the United States Colored Troops of the Union Army on December 13, 1864 in New Bern, North Carolina. Private Worthington served honorably through the remainder of the War in Companies B & E of the 14th Regiment United States Colored Heavy Artillery.

Recognizing the brave sacrifices of African American soldiers during the Civil War, Private Frank Worthington and 209,144 other names are proudly displayed on the Wall of Honor at the new African American Civil War Museum which will hold its grand opening on July 18, 2011. The new African American Civil War Museum will honor the contributions and sacrifices made by African American soldiers during the Civil War in the preservation of our Union. The inclusion of Private Worthington's name on the Wall of Honor is a worthy tribute, and I know his descendants will feel an immense sense of pride knowing that his name

will be forever included in this wonderful museum.

Private Worthington will be further remembered on August 13, 2011 when his family will gather to dedicate an official Civil War headstone from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The family has organized a three-day reunion, culminating with the dedication of the headstone which will forever memorialize his heroic and selfless action on behalf of the Union.

I ask my colleagues join me in offering sincere congratulations and our deepest sense of gratitude to the family of Private Frank Worthington for receiving, after almost 100 years since his death, the proper recognition of a life and military service that contributed immensely to our great country. Our Nation is forever indebted to the service of Private Frank Worthington and other African Americans who served during the Civil War.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE SERVICE OF REVEREND ARTURO GOMEZ

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2011*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to the spiritual leadership and service of Reverend Arturo Gomez. I want to extend my congratulations to Father Gomez on his retirement on July 24, 2011, after over thirty years of priesthood.

Father Gomez has served our community with humility and compassion. He will leave a legacy of service and spiritual leadership that most people can only hope to strive for. Father Gomez has touched the lives of many people. I want to thank him not only on behalf of our community, but as a parishioner, for his service to the Congregation of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, in union with the diocese of San Bernardino.

Father Gomez's parents and faith in God have helped shape him into the man he has become today. Family has always been a central part of Father Gomez's life. He has said that after Jesus and Mary, his greatest role models of goodness are his parents. They are his heroes. His father, Auerliano, immigrated to the United States from Jalpa, Zacatecas, Mexico, and met his mother, Petra, in Santa Paula, California. Father Gomez is the third oldest of the twelve children the couple raised.

Father Gomez has lived a life of service to others. After graduating at the top of his high school class, he joined the United States army because he was grateful to God and his country for the aid his family received. Father Arturo trained and served as a medic in Europe. Once he returned home he continued to practice nursing to support his widowed mother and eight younger siblings. Father Arturo waited to enter religious life until the last of his siblings completed high school.

His diligence and steady faith allowed him to earn a Bachelor's degree followed by two Master's degrees. He was ordained into Priesthood on August 23, 1980. Father Gomez entered religious life at the age of thirty and will retire after over thirty years of humble service. Heeding the commandment, love thy neighbor, he has tirelessly advocated on behalf of members of his parish facing deportation.